



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON  
THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019 AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE  
REGIS, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs S Munnings, T Bates, P Wharf, L Fairhurst, B House, C Packham, R Pitcher, P Morgan & B Benjafield

**Chair:** Cllr I Ventham

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 4 members of the public

**Public Participation**

19.33 Mr Whittingham was invited to address the meeting and requested that the 30mph limit at the top of Rye Hill, heading south, is extended to the current location of the 40mph sign, whilst the 40mph limit is moved to the southern side of the Lane End junction. This is predominantly due to the fact that he feels the traffic is speeding in this area, the grass verges are not cut very often, and it is extremely difficult for him and his neighbour to exit his property. In addition, the verge on the opposite side of the road is not being cut, making it difficult for vehicles to exit Yearlings Drove. They suffer a great deal from noise pollution due to the uneven nature of the road in front of their entrance and, having discussed this with Highways, have been told that the damage is not sufficiently poor to warrant the road being repaired.

Simon Walker – agrees with Mr Whittingham’s points. Walking along Rye Hill has become increasingly dangerous. There is a lot of speeding traffic at the bottom of Rye Hill, with some of the worst offenders being the agricultural contractors. He would like to see the stretch of road from the roundabout to Southbrook reduced to 20mph. This is an accident waiting to happen.

The Chairman highlighted the fact that the Parish Council carries out a traffic monitoring exercise every year providing averages throughout the week of the survey. This shows that the majority of traffic is travelling within the speed limit.

Cllr Packham reported that since the school has moved, there is nowhere for the children to cross without going up to the crossing and many do not do this.

Cllr Wharf has spoken to Stephen Mephram who said this needs to be discussed and debated by the Parish Council and residents to decide what request should be submitted to Highways. He can then check to see if the reduction in the speed limit on top of Rye Hill fits the criteria. An article will be included in the parish magazine asking for residents’ views, this can then be followed with a debate and then a formal request can be made via Cllr Wharf to take this forward. This can then go on the ranking sheet for a TRO which could take up to 2 years.

In the short term, the Lengthsman will be asked to cut the verges at the top of Rye Hill. This will also be added to the next agenda – road traffic orders, SIDS.

The question of parking at the Bere Fest was raised. People will be permitted to park on the recreation ground and the event will be marshalled.

Paul Doyle felt that the parking at Turberville is not sufficiently signposted. People coming into the village to use the facilities are parking on West Street rather than using the car park. It was noted that there are signs, both in the village and on Southbrook directing visitors to the car park. Mr Doyle expressed concern that, with all the new houses proposed, there will be an overspill of vehicles from the contractors and the new residents onto the already congested roads within the village. The Chairman reminded those present that the Neighbourhood Plan required contractors to be bound to park on the sites themselves and if they do not, it will be taken up with the developers. In addition, all the new houses are required to have at least 2 parking spaces per property with additional visitor parking provided on site. The national requirement is currently only 1.5 parking spaces per new property.

Signed: .....

Lorries and fast vans travelling through the villages. The surface of the western bound entry onto the bypass is in poor condition. There are lorries and coaches picking up in West Street. Cllr Wharf responded saying that the slip road is the responsibility of Highways England and is due to be resurfaced in the Autumn. Unfortunately, there is no way we can stop legal traffic coming through the village. The traffic densities continue to increase, and the road is a main route through to Milborne.

It is known that Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra park their vehicles in the village whilst they get picked up by a coach. The Parish Council will write to the Orchestra asking them not to do this. It is also known that there are several people who meet up in the village and leave one car whilst they car share in to work for the day. Whilst nothing can be done about this at this point, it is hoped that, once the development of the employment site is undertaken opposite the Shell Garage, a parking area can be set aside for car sharing schemes.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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**1. To receive apologies for absence**

19.34 No apologies had been received.

Philip Morgan was welcomed back to the Parish Council.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the AGM held on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

19.35 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Pitcher proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

**3. Matters arising form those minutes, not covered by this agenda**

19.36 Lockyer Land – still awaiting a response from our Land Agent.

War Memorial – the Clerk will contact Val Quinn to see if he would quote for the work.

Central Car Park – the abandoned car is still there and a new notice is to be put on it prior to moving it. There is also a vehicle with a SORN declaration on it. Cllr Morgan will contact the Police to see what can be done regarding vehicles on a private car park.

Black Hill – a request for a meeting has been sent to Natural England and a response is awaited.

**4. To receive declarations of interest and review dispensations received**

19.37 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

**5. To receive the Dorset Councillor's reports**

19.38 Cllr Wharf reported that the new Dorset News will be going out to every household in the near future. It contains a questionnaire and all residents are encouraged to complete this.

The Purbeck Local Plan is going to inspection during July.

A full copy of Cllr Wharf's report is available on the Parish Council's web site.

Electric Vehicle Charge Point provision – there has been a request received from Dorset Council asking for potential locations for charging points. Cllr Ventham felt the best location would be at the garage and suggested we lobby Shell to install one there. Cllr Munnings preferred the idea of one being installed in the car park as this would mean the owners would then have to spend an hour walking around the village and using the facilities. However, we have very limited parking spaces, and do we want to take out one space for this. Members were asked to vote on the likely location for the electrical hookup:

7 in favour of putting it in the car park  
1 in favour of approaching the Shell Garage

The Clerk will respond to the request saying we would be open to the idea in principle but do not feel we have sufficient available parking spaces or interest to warrant installing a point at this time.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Wharf reported that he had attended the opening of the Durlleston Country Park Shed Project. It will be open to the public on Mondays and Wednesdays, but he is happy to take individuals or groups to have a look around the facility. Cllr House will look into the possibility of using this as a day trip for the minibus.

**ACTION: CLLR HOUSE**

## **6. Key Topics**

### 19.39 To consider group responsibilities

The existing responsibilities sheet was issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Morgan will be included within the Community Liaison and all other responsibilities will remain as they are. The sheet will be updated and reissued.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### 19.40 To receive an update on the Mid-Summer Bere Fest

The site plan and list of participants were issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Geoff Sagar with the older Scouts will take on the running of the car park and first aid at the event in return for a donation. All members are asked to attend the event and operate as stewards. Help will be needed on Saturday at 4pm to put up marquees and then again at 9am on the Sunday morning. We need to borrow 1 table from the Drax Hall and 40 chairs from the Scouts – Cllr Pitcher will organise this.

The event will go ahead even if it rains.

**ACTION: CLLR PITCHER**

The band and Nina Garcia will both need paying on the day and a donation of £100 was suggested for the Scouts. Cllr Ventham will pass the details of the costs to the Clerk who can then arrange the appropriate funds.

**ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM/CLERK**

### 19.41 Implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan

We are now at the point where we need to go into formal correspondence with the landowners and Savills, saying we would be interested in knowing timescales for development. A letter will be sent to Dorset Council, the land agents for White Lovington and Barrow Hill and the Drax Estate.

Regarding Barrow Hill, Cllr Wharf has spoken to the residents in that area. The application will be going to the Planning Committee on either 3<sup>rd</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> July. Cllr Munnings will attend on behalf of the Parish Council if he is available.

## **7. Finance**

### 19.42 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

DC Pension Fund	June contribution	BACS015	516.36
Cheap Printing	Banners, fliers, posters	BACS016	168.90
Mrs A Crocker	June wages + expenses	BACS017	1433.05
HMRC	PAYE & NIC – June 2019	BACS018	528.12
A King	Lengthsman – May 2019	BACS019	2806.99
BR Parish Mag	Bere Fest advert	BACS020	19.00
Bere Regis PCC	Grant towards cost of yew tree works	1904	500.00

Total to be paid from the Precept is **£5,972.42**

Lunch Club & NeighbourCar (Both these schemes are self-funding with no costs coming from the Precept)

I Ventham	May Lunch Club	SPLC002	45.35
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D Fairhurst	NeighbourCar 29/4-22/5/19	NC002	55.80
R Jones	NeighbourCar May 2019	NC003	28.80
S Percival	May Lunch Club	SPLC003	250.00
I Ventham	Lunch Club glassware boxes	SPLC004	427.33
M Benjafield	NeighbourCar 14/5-11/6/19	NC004	22.85

Total to be paid from the schemes' funds **£830.13**

Cllr Wharf proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously.

**ACTION: CLERK**

19.43 To confirm reconciliation of accounts and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been given to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made or queries raised.

19.44 To agree the Annual Governance Statement

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Each statement was reviewed and individually acknowledged. Cllr Wharf then proposed that the Annual Governance Statement is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Fairhurst and agreed unanimously. The Statement was then signed by the Chairman and Clerk in the presence of the meeting.

19.45 To confirm the Accounting Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

A copy of the full set of accounts had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting, together with the Annual Accounting Statement. Cllr Fairhurst proposed the accounts are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Pitcher and agreed unanimously. The Accounting Statement was signed by the Chairman and RFO in the presence of the meeting,

19.46 To accept the Internal Auditor's Report

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. All the points raised by the auditor were noted and, where applicable, appropriate action had been taken.

**8. Planning & Housing**

19.47 To consider planning applications

6/2019/0126                      The Paddock, Barrow Hill                      - erect 2 new dwellings & associated infrastructure. Modify existing access.

This represents an alteration to a previously submitted application to which the Parish Council objected. This application was considered by the whole Council via email and a further objection submitted. The full response is available on request from the Clerk.

6/2019/0332                      80 West Street – sub division of existing dwelling to form a dental surgery on the ground floor and an independent flat on the first floor

No objection.

19.48 To consider tree work applications

TWA/2019/110                      12 Shitterton                      - T1 Acer, reduce height by 3-4'

PWP recommended no objections to any of the applications. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously.

## **9. Environment & Facilities**

### 19.49 Open Spaces update

Cllr Pitcher has been liaising with the Lengthsman regarding the play park and a resident has offered to assist with the work. A working party day will be organised later in the year which will include the woodchip being topped up.

The ponies have arrived on Souls Moor and the benefits are already being seen.

### 19.50 Cllr Packham left the meeting.

Cllr Benjafield asked if it would be possible to have the trees on the north side of Souls Bridge trimmed. The Lengthsman will be asked to pick this up.

Cllr Ventham raised the issue of the tidiness of the roads around the village. The gutters are full of rubbish and weeds. There is a problem with the grass cutting and it was suggested that a meeting is arranged with Stephen Mephram to discuss who cuts what and where. Linked to this, if we take on more, the next thing is the gutters. Could this be done by community payback or perhaps we need to buy a machine. Once the gutters are cleared, it could be an easier job to keep them clear. Cllr Wharf will set up a meeting with Stephen Mephram and, in the meantime, Cllr Pitcher will look at what to do with the gutters and the machine and the Clerk will look into Community Payback. Perhaps an alternative could be to instruct a contractor to blitz the village over two or three days.

**ACTION: CLLRS WHARF & PITCHER & CLERK**

### 19.51 Rights of Way

For several years, the Lengthsman has been clearing the near rights of way. Are the Parish Council happy for this to continue – yes.

### 19.52 To review the current Cemetery charges

A comparison of nearby cemetery charges had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk has suggested a 3% increase. Cllr Ventham proposed that the increase is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Fairhurst and agreed unanimously.

### 19.53 Defects

None were reported.

## **12. Police, Traffic and Roads**

19.54 Cllr Ventham reported that he had received an email from a resident of Townsend Estate highlighting an issue of a lorry reversing around the corner and damaging parked vehicles. It is a public highway and, as such, vehicles are permitted to use the road. With regard to the damaged vehicles, it would be the responsibility of the owners to pursue an insurance claim.

Cllr Morgan raised the issue of the verges at Bere Heath. This will be raised with Stephen Mephram.

## **13. Community Liaison**

### 19.55 To consider implementing our own Bere Regis Volunteer Certificates

With the demise of the Purbeck Annual Volunteer of the Year Award scheme, we do have our own certificates. It would be nice if we were to be able to issue certificates within the village and give them out at the Bere Fest or Village Forum. Should anyone have any suggestions for recipients, please pass them to the Clerk.

19.56 Post Office

Cllr Fairhurst raised a problem regarding rumours saying that the Parish Council is not willing to do anything to save the Post Office. It was noted that both Cllr Wharf and Cllr Ventham has spoken to Janette Woodhouse twice now and offered to enter into discussion with her. The Parish Council is entirely supportive of the attempts to move the Post Office to the pub and wish her well with her discussions with the Post Office, but, unless she is willing to say what she requires of the Parish Council, there is little that we can do. It must be noted that the Post Office is a business and, despite the fact that it is vitally important to many residents, the Parish Council cannot legally use public funds to assist a business.

**14. Children & Youth**

19.57 To consider the upgrade/refurbishment of the Elder Road Youth Shelter

Cllr Pitcher has suggested removing the sides and painting the roof and pillars. Benches can then be put under the canopy. He will provide a mock-up of the proposal for the shelter and bring it to the July meeting of the Parish Council.

**ACTION: CLLR PITCHER**

**15. Correspondence received since the agenda was set**

19.58 Nothing to add.

**16. Public Relations**

- 19.59 - Post Office
- Bere Fest
- Wildlife report and ponies
- Discussion of traffic on Rye Hill
- Recognition of residents for their work in the community
- Summer Programme for Communibus
- Memorial benches
- A trip to the Durlleston Shed

**17 Items for the July meeting**

19.60 Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk for inclusion in the July agenda by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.09pm.